

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that Claims 1-9 and 12 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over the Japanese patent document to Mizuno, et al in view of the Japanese patent documents to Yoshioka, et al and Tanizaki, et al.

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over the Mizuno, Yoshioka and Tanizaki references and further in view of the European patent document to Szydlowski.

Also, the specification and Claim 5 are objected to and Claim 5 is rejected under 35 USC 112.

At the same time, the Examiner indicated that the claims could be allowable if rewritten as suggested by her.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of the present application and the Examiner's suggestion for the claims have been gratefully acknowledged. In connection with this, applicants amended the claims as proposed by the Examiner.

It is believed that the Examiner's grounds for objections and rejections to the claims should be considered as no longer tenable and the claims currently on file should be considered as patentably distinguishing over the art and should be allowed.

The specification has been amended to provide the reference to Figure 2, and the formal drawings have been submitted.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the present application should be considered as being in allowable condition.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Striker', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

Michael J. Striker
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